

# The Docent News

For Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Docents

November 2001

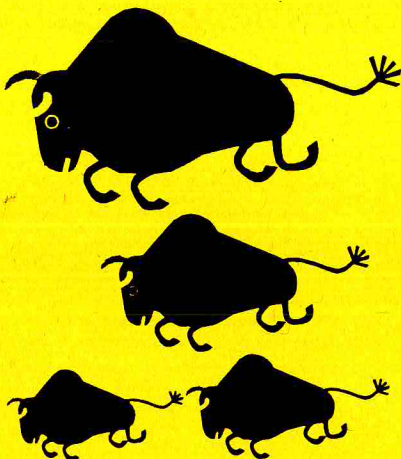


## Docent Roundup Day

*This year's Docent Roundup Day is Wednesday, November 14, 2001.*

Like last year we will meet at **1:00pm at the visitor center** and groups will be taken up to the corral by van until mid afternoon to see the bison up close and personal! Come early with a sack lunch if you'd like. Bring a spouse or a friend, but no young children please! **Please contact us if you plan on coming to Round Up!!** Currently there are fewer than 10 people on the Docent Roundup Day attendance list!!

**RSVP to Kim or Mary at (918) 585-1117.**



## September 2001

### Visitation

from George Meyers

**1,049** visitors signed in during September, **67.8%** more than in September 2000. We had 34 visitors from 11 other countries with Kenya (7), Germany (6), Holland (4), Argentina (3), and Australia and India (2 each) heading the list. New countries added to this year's list were Bolivia and India. We had 270 visitors from 31 other states with Arkansas (59), California (30), Texas (20), Missouri (16), Kansas (13), and New Mexico and Ohio (12 each) at the top of the list. We had 745 visitors from Oklahoma. 28 of the foreign visitors were first-time visitors, along with 203 of out-of-state visitors and 444 Oklahomans. Year to date, we have had visitors from 49 states, Washington D.C., 3 U.S. possessions and 46 other countries. Vermont is still the missing state. Of the 8,193 visitors so far this year, 56.8% were first-timers, 83.8% of foreign visitors, 73.3% of visitors from other states, 46.8% of Oklahomans, and 100% from Guam.

This month more visitors came on Monday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, totaling 79.8% of our visitors. 83.9% of visitors came between 11:30 and 5:30pm. We had one day with only 1 visitor and another day with only 2.

Visitor comments included: "Wonderful place, keep up the good work!" A Venezuelan, "Chevere". "Where's rain?", "Wonderful God's Big Acre", "Great informative host", "Impressive", "Inspirational", "Staff very informative-wonderful place", A visitor from Turkey wrote, "Doesn't look like home. I am happy to find this preserve." Another person commented, "I want to ride my horse through the country and sing Oklahoma." Some folks saw "2 great owls, a coyote, and BISON." There were also many "great, beautiful, wonderful, interesting, nice, and excellent" comments.

**Have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving Holiday!**



## Gift Shop

### Sales Summary

4,562.16	September 2001
5,841.50	September 2000
<u>-1,279.34</u>	<i>Decrease in Sales</i>

47,691.88	2001 Year to Date
45,468.33	2000 Year to Date
<u>2,223.55</u>	<i>Increase in Sales</i>

## Winter Shifts

As in recent years we hope to keep the Visitor center open into December. If you are interested in working during the month of December (**especially on the weekends before Christmas**), please contact Barbara Bates for scheduling at (918) 748-9497 or [bbates@webzone.net](mailto:bbates@webzone.net)

## OK Chapter Calendar

### November

13	Docent Roundup Day
15	TNC Art Show
22	Thanksgiving Day

### December

4	Book signing in Tulsa
8	Docent Recognition Dinner

## Fall Trail Guide Trips

I want to extend a **HUGE** word of thanks to the many trail guides that provided field trips during September and October for students from Carver Middle School, First Lutheran School, McClure Elementary, and Undercroft Montessori. The scheduling got a bit crazy for a while and

your patience with me and my last-minute phone calls and emails is greatly appreciated also.

The sixth grade class from Carver Middle School had such a wonderful time they made a donation from their class activity fund of \$230.00 to the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve!

## Gentle Reminders

- ✓ Changes in your scheduled shifts should be reported to Barbara Bates **first**. Please call Kim or Mary only if you cannot reach Barbara. Her contact information is at the bottom of the calendar pages.
- ✓ It is your responsibility to find substitutes if you are not able to work a shift.
- ✓ Has your email address changed? If so please update us so we can contact you.
- ✓ Do you need an updated or new name badge? Let us know if you do.



## New Staff in Tulsa

The Oklahoma field office has acquired 2 new staff members. Kathy Hollenbeck joined TNC in mid October. She is our protection and financials specialist.

Steve Forsythe will join the office in early November. He is the Chapter's new Director of Conservation.

## Evaluation Time!

Your copy of the docent evaluation is included in this month's issue. We would appreciate your input regarding the docent program. The evaluation form also lets us know if you will continue with the TGP docent program during 2002. Please complete the enclosed evaluation form and return it to Kim by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

## A Natural Suspect

Tulsa author Bill Bernhardt is contributing to the Oklahoma Chapter with a new book! After trips to Black Mesa and the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve, author Bernhardt put together this book project with some colleagues. "Natural Suspect" is a mystery tale that opens with clues from Bernhardt. Several contributing guest authors take it from there, with each author attempting to solve the mystery.

Help celebrate the release of Tulsa novelist Bill Bernhardt's "Natural Suspect" by attending a book signing on Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. The signing will take place at Novel Idea bookstore, 7104 S. Sheridan in Tulsa from 11am-12:30pm.

# DECEMBER 2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> * *
<b>2</b> * *	<b>3</b> * *	<b>4</b> * *	<b>5</b> * *	<b>6</b> * *	<b>7</b> * *	<b>8</b> * *
<b>9</b> * *	<b>10</b> * *	<b>11</b> * *	<b>12</b> * *	<b>13</b> * *	<b>14</b> * *	<b>15</b> * *
<b>16</b> * *	<b>17</b> * *	<b>18</b> * *	<b>19</b> * *	<b>20</b> * *	<b>21</b> * *	<b>22</b> * * *
<b>23</b> * *	<b>24</b> * *	<b>25</b>  <i>Christmas Day</i>	<b>26</b> * *	<b>27</b> * *	<b>28</b> * *	<b>29</b>

RETURN THIS TO: Barbara Bates  
4142 E. 48<sup>th</sup> St.  
Tulsa OK 74135

Phone: 918 - 748-9497  
(Leave your name and phone number on the answering machine)  
E-Mail: [bbates@webzone.net](mailto:bbates@webzone.net)

**Weekends call - Ann Whitehorn 918-287-4238**  
Shift Hours: 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
(Stay until 5 if you can)